

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00593 182031Z
ACTION SS-25

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O R 181714Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0593

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, UNSC, ET, SO
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON HORN: UN UPDATE

REF: STATE 042000

1. SOMALI AMB HUSSEN TOLD AMB LEONARD FEBRUARY 17 OF HIS
COUNTRY'S DISMAY THAT FELLOW AFRICANS REFUSED TO UNDERSTAND
THE "EXTRA-AFRICAN" IMPLICATIONS OF SOMALIA'S PLIGHT. HE
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REPEATED EARLIER ASSERTIONS THAT SOVIET/CUBAN INVOLVEMENT
WAS THE KEY ELEMENT OF THE CRISIS. HE SAID THAT US AND
OTHERS' WARNINGS OF THE WEAKNESS OF A SOMALI APPROACH TO
THE COUNCIL BASED ONLY ON THE SOVIET/CUBAN ELEMENT
HAD "DISCOURAGED" SOMALIA FROM THAT TACK. HE SHOWED
NO INTEREST IN SOMALIAN SPONSORSHIP OF A BROAKER
RESOLUTION. NEITHER DID HE SHOW INTEREST IN A SOMALI

DECLARATION OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW SOMALI TROOPS FROM THE OGADEN. HE STATED THAT HIS PRESIDENT HAD SAID ONLY THAT SOMALIA "MAY " SEND REGULAR FORCES INTO THE OGADEN, NOT THAT THEY WERE ALREADY THERE.

2. UKUN REPORTS A POSITIVE RESPONSE OF A UK DEMARCHE IN KHARTOUM TO MINSTATE DENG. AD REFERENDUM TO NUMEIRY, DENG HAD BEEN "REASONABLY FORTHCOMING" TO THE UK AMB ON THE WESTERN FIVE DRAFT "ELEMENTS" OF A SC RESOLUTION AND THOUGHT THAT A COUNCIL MEETING ON THE HORN WOULD BE "A GOOD STEP FORWARD". HE CAUTIONED THAT SIAD WOULD NEVER VOLUNTARILY WITHDRAW SOMALI TROOPS FROM THE OGADEN UNLESS WITHDRAWAL WAS PART OF AN ACCEPTABLE OVERALL PACKAGE.

3. REGARDING OPERATIVE ELEMENT 2(B) OF WESTERN FIVE DRAFT "ELEMENTS", A CANVAS OF THE FOUR IN NEW YORK RECONFIRMS UNANIMOUS VIEW THAT LANGUAGE "FROM THE TERRITORY COVERED BY THE CONFLICT" IS PREFERABLE TO "FROM THE TERRITORY OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT". CANADA, AND ESPECIALLY FRANCE, HOWEVER, FELT THAT EVEN FORMER LANGUAGE DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH TO PRODUCE A NEGOTIABLE RESOLUTION AND QUESTIONED THE NEGOTIABILITY IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF CALLING EVEN FOR A WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM THE OGADEN, LET ALONE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE HORN IN GENERAL. FRENCH MISSION TELLS US LATE FEB. 17 THAT FRANCE COULD NOT COSPONSOR A RESOLUTION CONTAINING EITHER VERSION.
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LEONARD

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